Claims

Sub A2

~~1. Apparatus for recovery of the product forming a slick floating on the surface of the water such as an oil slick, characterised in that it comprises:~~

- ~~a recovery head (1) formed by an enclosure (2) having in the upper part an inlet (3) for the product to be recovered and in the lower part (4) an outlet for the recovered product,~~
- ~~a vortex generator which is formed by a agitator (9) immersed in the enclosure and borne by the shaft (8) of a motor (7) and which creates in the enclosure a dynamic vortex (V) which descends in the enclosure (2) as far as its outlet (4),~~
- ~~a flotation means (5) which supports the enclosure (2) so as to keep its inlet (3) at the level of the slick to be recovered (8),~~
- ~~a pipe (20) connecting the outlet of the enclosure to a tank (31).~~

~~2. Apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, characterised in that the agitator (9) is immersed at an adjustable height in the enclosure below the level of the floating slick (P).~~

~~3. Apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, characterised in that the enclosure (2) is in the shape of a funnel following the flow lines of the vortex, the flared portion of the enclosure constituting the product inlet (3), whilst the tip of the cone constitutes the outlet (4) connected to the discharge pipe (20).~~

~~4. Apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, characterised in that the discharge pipe (20) is connected to a suction means (30).~~

Cont Sub A2

~~5. Apparatus as claimed in any one of Claims 1 and 4, characterised by a control unit connected to the motor (7) of the vortex generator (7, 8, 9) and to the suction means (30) in order to control these two means as a function of one another.~~

~~6. Apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, characterised in that the flotation means (5) is formed by floats supporting the enclosure (2) and the vortex generator (7, 8, 9).~~

~~7. Apparatus as claimed in Claim 6, characterised in that the connection (10) between the floats (5) and the enclosure (2) is adjustable in order to adjust the depth of immersion of the inlet (3) of the enclosure as a function of the thickness (X) of the slick of product to be recovered (P).~~

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